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EXTRACTS

FROM THE

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS

OF

NEW-JERSEY.

1775

EXTRACTS

FROM THE

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS

OF

NEW-JERSEY,

Held at TRENTON in the Months of

May, *June* and *August*, 1775.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER.

BURLINGTON:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY *ISAAC COLLINS*,

M,DCC,LXXV.

EXTRACTS, &c.

LIST of the DEPUTIES who attended in *May* and *June*.

BERGEN COUNTY.

JOHN Fell,
John Demareſt,
Hendrick Kuyper,
Abraham Van Boſkirk,
Edo Merſelius.

ESSEX COUNTY.

Henry Garritſe,
Michael Vreeland,
Robert Drummond,
John Berry,
William P. Smith,
John Stites,
John Chetwood,
Abraham Clark,
Elias Boudinot,
Iſaac Ogden,
Philip Van Cortlandt,
Bethuel Peirſon,
Caleb Camp.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

Nathaniel Heard,
William Smith,
John Dunn,
John Lloyd,
Azariah Dunham,
John Schurman,
John Wetherill,
David Williamſon,
Jonathan Sergeant,
Jonathan Baldwin,
Jonathan Deare.

MORRIS COUNTY.

William Winds,
William De Hart,
Jonathan Stiles,
Peter Dickerſon,
Jacob Drake,
Ellis Cook,
Silas Condit.

SOMERSET COUNTY.

Hendrick Fiſher,
John Roy,
Peter Schenk,
Abraham Van Neſte,
Enos Kelſey,
Jonathan D. Sergeant,
Frederick Freelinghuyſen,
William Paterſon.

SUSSEX

SUSSEX COUNTY.

Archibald Stewart,
Edward Dumont,
William Maxwell,
Ephraim Martin.

MONMOUTH COUNTY.

Edward Taylor,
Joſeph Saltar,
Robert Montgomery,
John Holmes,
John Covenhoven,
Daniel Hendrickſon,
Nicholas Van Brunt.

HUNTERDON COUNTY.

Samuel Tucker,
John Mehelm,
John Hart,
John Stout,
Jaſper Smith,
Thomas Lowry,
Charles Stewart,
Daniel Hunt,
Ralph Hart,
Jacob Jennings,
Richard Stevens,
John Stevens, junior,
Thomas Stout,
Thomas Jones,
John Baſſet.

BURLINGTON COUNTY.

Joſeph Borden,
Iſaac Pearſon,
Colin Campbell,
Joſeph Read,
John Pope.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY.

John Cooper,
Elijah Clark,
John Sparks.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

Samuel Fithian,
Jonathan Elmer,
Thomas Ewing.

SALEM COUNTY.

Andrew Sinnickſon,
Robert Johnſon,
Samuel Dick,
Jacob Scoggin,
James James.

CAPE-MAY COUNTY.

Jeſſe Hand.

TUESDAY, *May* 23, 1775.

THE Provincial Congreſs having been appointed to convene this day at *Trenton*, a large number of the deputies accordingly aſſembled; and the day was ſpent in examining and comparing the certificates of election of the ſeveral members preſent.

WEDNESDAY, *May* 24.

The Congreſs proceeded to the choice of a preſident, when *Hendrick Fiſher*, Eſq. was duly elected; *Jonathan D. Sergeant*, Eſq. was choſen Secretary, and *William Paterſon*, Eſq. and Mr. *Frederick Freelinghuyſen* his aſſiſtants.

INASMUCH as the buſineſs on which this Congreſs are now aſſembled, and is likely to engage their deliberations, appears to be of the higheſt moment, and may in the event affect the lives and properties, the religion and liberties of their conſtituents, and of their remoteſt poſterity, it unqueſtionably becomes the repreſentative body of a chriſtian community to look up to that all-powerful Being, by whoſe providence all human events are guided, humbly imploring his divine favour, in preſiding over and directing their preſent councils towards the re-eſtabliſhment of order and harmony between *Great-Britain* and her diſtreſſed colonies; and that he would be graciouſly pleaſed to ſucceed the meaſures that may be deviſed as moſt conducive to theſe deſirable ends: It is therefore ordered, that the preſident do wait upon the miniſters of the goſpel in this town, and, in behalf of this Congreſs, requeſt their

alternate

alternate attendance and ſervice every morning at eight o'clock, during the ſeſſion, in order that the buſineſs of the day may be opened with prayer for the above purpoſes.

THE preſident opened to the Congreſs the important occaſion of their meeting—recommended the utmoſt deliberation in determining on the meaſures to be purſued in defending thoſe ineſtimable rights and privileges to which, by our happy conſtitution, the inhabitants of this province are juſtly entitled—and that due care might be taken to ſupport the eſtabliſhed civil authority (ſo far as might conſiſt with the preſervation of their fundamental liberties) for the maintenance of good order and the undiſturbed adminiſtration of juſtice.

THE Congreſs then took into conſideration the preſent unhappy conteſt between *Great-Britain* and theſe colonies, which they determined to be of ſuch a nature, and had arrived to ſuch a criſis, that this convention had become abſolutely neceſſary, in order to provide ſuch ways and means for the ſecurity of the province, as the exigencies of the times require; and, at the ſame time, declared, that they had aſſembled with the profoundeſt veneration for the perſon and family of his ſacred majeſty GEORGE the III[d], firmly profeſſing all due allegiance to his rightful authority and government.

WHEREAS a majority of the ſeveral legiſlative repreſentatives of this colony, in general aſſembly convened at *Perth-Amboy* in *January* laſt, was inſtructed and authorized by their conſtituents to

elect

elect and appoint deputies to repreſent this province in the Continental Congreſs now ſitting in the city of *Philadelphia*: And whereas the ſaid general aſſembly accordingly did elect and appoint *Stephen Crane*, *James Kinſey*, *William Livingſton*, *John De Hart* and *Richard Smith*, Eſquires, for that purpoſe: And whereas ſome of the counties of this colony omitted ſo to inſtruct and authorize their ſaid legiſlative repreſentatives, who, notwithſtanding, cordially joined in the ſaid election and appointment: This Congreſs do therefore heartily approve of the ſaid *Stephen Crane*, *James Kinſey*, *William Livingſton*, *John De Hart* and *Richard Smith*, as repreſentatives of this province in the ſaid Continental Congreſs: And do alſo ſincerely thank the houſe of aſſembly for the laudable regard they have ſhewn for the rights and liberties of the good people of this province, in timely adopting the continental aſſociation, and reſolving in favour of the reſolutions and proceedings of the late Continental Congreſs. And it is unanimouſly agreed and reſolved, that it will be moſt eligible for the inhabitants of each reſpective county in this colony, whenever a Continental Congreſs ſhall be again neceſſary, to appoint and empower deputies to meet in Provincial Congreſs, for the purpoſe of electing delegates to repreſent this province in ſuch Continental Congreſs.

Ordered, THAT all votes be taken from the counties reſpectively, ſo that the vote of each county be taken as one.

THE Congreſs having conſidered the application of about two hundred of the inhabitants of the

the townſhip of *Shrewſbury*, in the county of *Monmouth*, calling themſelves aſſociators of the ſaid townſhip, do unanimouſly adviſe, that the perſons appointed by the ſaid preſent aſſociators, as their committee, do immediately advertiſe a meeting of the inhabitants of the ſaid townſhip of *Shrewſbury*, in order to chooſe a committee of obſervation for the ſaid townſhip, and adopt the aſſociation recommended by the Continental Congreſs; and, after ſuch choice and adoption, to elect deputies, one or more, to repreſent them in this Congreſs: And that the perſons who ſhall be ſo elected, by a majority of the inhabitants attending the ſaid meeting of the townſhip, be received as members of this Congreſs: And in caſe of the refuſal or neglect of the townſhip ſo to do, then this Congreſs do adviſe the ſaid committee of the preſent aſſociators to ſend a deputy or deputies for themſelves to this Congreſs; and do direct the ſaid committee to make and certify their report to this Congreſs of what ſhall have been done in this behalf.

THURSDAY, *May* 25.

Samuel Tucker, Eſquire, was elected Vice-Preſident by plurality of votes.

THE Congreſs reſumed the conſideration of a written meſſage to the Continental Congreſs, which, after certain amendments, was approved and ordered to be entered, and a copy to be made and ſigned by the preſident; which meſſage is in the words following, *viz.*

Gentlemen,

Gentlemen,

IN the preſent alarming criſis, we have been appointed by the ſeveral counties of this province as their deputies to meet in provincial Congreſs. We are accordingly now convened in this place, with diſpoſitions moſt heartily to concur to the utmoſt of our abilities, in the common cauſe of *America*: Yet we think it not adviſable to enter into any meaſures of conſequence, until ſome general plan may be agreed to and recommended by you. In this firſt inſtance of ſuch aſſembly in the colony, without any precedent among ourſelves to direct us, and, at the ſame time, anxiouſly concerned to make our provincial meaſures conſiſtent with that plan which may be deviſed and recommended by the Continental Congreſs, we have judged it neceſſary to addreſs ourſelves to you for ſuch advice and aſſiſtance as you in your wiſdom may think proper to favour us with. For this purpoſe we have deputed *William P. Smith* and *Elias Boudinot*, Eſquires, the bearers hereof, whom we recommend, requeſting that you will be pleaſed to furniſh us by them with ſuch directions concerning the line of conduct in which we ought to act, as may prevent any meaſures we ſhall adopt from marring or obſtructing the general views of the Congreſs, or diſappointing your expectations.

We are,

Gentlemen, &c.

FRIDAY, *May* 26.

THE Continental Congreſs having reſolved unanimouſly, "That all exportations to *Quebec*,

" *Nova-Scotia*, the iſland of *St. John's*, *New-*
" *foundland*, *Georgia*, (except the pariſh of *St.*
" *John*'s) and to *Eaſt* and *Weſt Florida*, immedi-
" ately ceaſe; and that no proviſions of any kind,
" or other neceſſaries, be furniſhed to the *Britiſh*
" fiſheries on the *American* coaſts, until it be other-
" wiſe determined by the Congreſs:" *Reſolved unanimouſly*, That this Congreſs do earneſtly recommend to the good people of this province, that they do moſt religiouſly adhere to the ſaid reſolution; and that the ſecretary do publiſh this reſolve in one or more of the publick newspapers.

The committee appointed for opening a correſpondence with the provincial Congreſs of *New-York*, reported a draught of a letter for that purpoſe; which was read, approved, and ordered to be entered; and a copy to be made out and ſigned by the preſident; which letter was in the words following, *viz.*

Gentlemen,

WE, the deputies appointed by the inhabitants of *New-Jerſey* to meet in provincial Congreſs, are now convened here, for the purpoſe of purſuing ſuch meaſures as may be thought moſt expedient in the preſent unhappy ſituation to which the colonies are reduced, and which the peculiar exigencies of the times may require. As nothing can tend more to enſure ſucceſs to the ſteps which may, at this critical juncture, be adopted by the ſeveral provinces, than a uniform plan of conduct; we conceived it neceſſary to look up to the Continental Congreſs for their

advice

advice and direction; which we have accordingly applied for, and hope ſoon to receive. We alſo think it of conſequence that a correſpondence ſhould be eſtabliſhed with you and our other ſiſter colonies, and a free communication be had, from time to time, of ſuch meaſures as may be judged moſt conducive to the intereſt of the common cauſe; and we requeſt to be favoured with ſuch intelligence as may occur to you, worthy of attention, and of which our ſituation may probably deprive us. *We are, &c.*

MONDAY, *May* 29.

Pierpoint Edwards, Eſq. one of a committee from the aſſembly of *Connecticut* to this congreſs, attended with certain propoſitions and inſtructions, which were received and read, and ordered to be referred for further conſideration.

Meſſieurs *Daniel Hendrickſon* and *Nicholas Van Brunt* from the townſhip of *Shrewsbury*, in the county of *Monmouth*, produced a certificate that the ſaid townſhip had choſen a committee of obſervation purſuant to the directions of the Continental Congreſs, and that they had elected theſe gentlemen as deputies to repreſent the ſaid townſhip in this Congreſs. The ſaid certificate was allowed and filed.

TUESDAY, *May* 30.

William P. Smith and *Elias Boudinot*, Eſqrs. the committee ſent by this Congreſs with a meſſage to the Continental Congreſs, returned with a written anſwer, importing, that the Congreſs were not as yet

yet prepared to give any advice on the ſtate of this province, and promiſing the ſame as ſoon as they ſhould be prepared.

Jonathan D. Sergeant, Eſquire, having reſigned his office of ſecretary to this Congreſs, *William Paterſon*, Eſquire, was choſen ſecretary, and Mr. *Frederick Freelinghuyſen* deputy-ſecretary.

THE Congreſs received a letter from the provincial Congreſs of *New-York*, in anſwer to theirs of the 26th inſtant, importing their readineſs to eſtabliſh a correſpondence with us, and a free communication of ſuch meaſures as may from time to time be judged conducive to promote the common cauſe.

WEDNESDAY, *May* 31.

THE petition of *Robert Murray* and *John Murray*, ſetting forth their ſincere contrition for violating the Continental Aſſociation, and their determined reſolution for the future ſtrictly to obſerve the ſame, *&c.* was read, and ordered a ſecond reading.

THE petition of *Robert* and *John Murray* was read a ſecond time; and, being now conſidered, it was unanimouſly reſolved, that the petitioners, having made the beſt ſatisfaction in their power for their former breach of the general continental agreement, and expreſſed their reſolution ſtrictly to adhere to the ſame in future, ought to be reſtored to the favourable regard of their country; and the ſaid *Robert* and *John Murray* are accordingly reſtored to all the civil and commercial privileges

privileges which they heretofore enjoyed in this province.

P. M.

THE Congreſs reſumed the conſideration of the form of an aſſociation, which was reported in the morning; and, after certain amendments, approved the ſame, and ordered it to be entered, which is in the words following:

WE, the ſubſcribers, freeholders and inhabitants of the townſhip of in the county of and province of *New-Jerſey*, having long viewed with concern the avowed deſign of the miniſtry of *Great-Britain* to raiſe a revenue in *America*; being deeply affected with the cruel hoſtilities already commenced in the *Maſſachuſett's-Bay* for carrying that arbitrary deſign into execution; convinced that the preſervation of the rights and privileges of *America* depends, under God, on the firm union of its inhabitants; do, with hearts abhorring ſlavery, and ardently wiſhing for a reconciliation with our parent ſtate on conſtitutional principles, ſolemnly aſſociate and reſolve, under the ſacred ties of virtue, honour and love to our country, that we will perſonally, and as far as our influence extends, endeavour to ſupport and carry into execution whatever meaſures may be recommended by the Continental and our Provincial Congreſs, for defending our conſtitution, and preſerving the ſame inviolate.

WE do alſo further aſſociate and agree, as far as ſhall be conſiſtent with the meaſures adopted for the preſervation of *American* freedom, to

ſupport

ſupport the magiſtrates and other civil officers in the execution of their duty, agreeable to the laws of this colony; and to obſerve the directions of our committee, acting according to the reſolutions of the aforeſaid Continental and Provincial Congreſſes; firmly determined, by all means in our power, to guard againſt thoſe diſorders and confuſions to which the peculiar circumſtances of the times may expoſe us.

Reſolved, That copies of the above aſſociation be immediately ſent to the committees of obſervation or correſpondence in the ſeveral counties of this province, which have not already aſſociated in a ſimilar manner, in order that the ſame may be ſigned by the ſeveral inhabitants, accompanied with the following letter, to be ſigned by the preſident:

Gentlemen,

ANXIOUSLY deſirous to promote as far as poſſible an union among the inhabitants of this colony, we have thought proper to recommend to them the encloſed aſſociation; which we deſire may be immediately ſigned by the good people of your townſhip; that, at a time when our moſt valuable privileges are invaded, we may, in a uniform manner, make our defence, and prevent the evils to which our unhappy ſituation expoſes us.

THURSDAY, *June* 1.

THE committee appointed to prepare the draught of an anſwer to *Pierpoint Edwards*, Eſq. reported the ſame; which was read, approved, and

and ordered to be entered; and a copy thereof to be delivered, ſigned by the preſident; which is in the words following:

In PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, *New-Jerſey*, *June* 1, 1775.

Pierpoint Edwards, Eſq. from the colony of *Connecticut*, having laid before this Congreſs ſundry papers containing, among other things, the appointment of a committee by the houſe of repreſentatives of ſaid colony, for the purpoſe of procuring intelligence of the true ſtate of this province, giving information of the ſtate of the ſaid colony of *Connecticut*, and for cultivating harmony and good correſpondence with this province: and this Congreſs having read and conſidered the ſame, take this method of expreſſing their higheſt ſatisfaction with the ſpirited conduct and proceedings of the ſaid colony of *Connecticut*; and do hereby requeſt the ſaid Mr. *Edwards* to aſſure the honourable houſe of repreſentatives of that colony, that the province of *New-Jerſey* will moſt heartily co-operate with them in the general meaſures now purſuing for the common defence of the rights of *America*; and will with great pleaſure cultivate that harmony and good correſpondence with our brethren of *Connecticut*, which they ſo earneſtly deſire—that this congreſs are now engaged in ſettling a plan for putting the province in the beſt ſtate of defence in their power; and are ready to purſue ſuch other methods and directions as ſhall be recommended to them by the Continental Congreſs, from whom they are daily expecting advice for this purpoſe: and, whenever any particular meaſures ſhall be finally

finally ſettled and concluded upon by this province, the houſe of repreſentatives of *Connecticut* ſhall have the earlieſt intelligence.

FRIDAY, *June* 2.

A LETTER from *Pierpoint Edwards*, Eſquire, requeſting copies of ſuch of the reſolves and proceedings of this Congreſs as reſpected the regulation of the militia, the raiſing of men and money, *&c.* for the common defence of *America*, was received and read; to which the following anſwer was returned, *viz.*

Sir,

THE Congreſs received your polite letter of this morning; and are ſorry that the militia bill and other matters now before them are not ſo far completed that they can comply with your requeſt, in giving you extracts from them to take with you to the honourable houſe of aſſembly of the colony of *Connecticut*. You may, however, be aſſured, that when the Congreſs riſe, a copy of ſuch proceedings as ſhall be neceſſary to be communicated, will be tranſmitted to the ſpeaker of your honourable houſe. *We are*, *&c.*

SATURDAY, *June* 3, *P. M.*

THE draught of a plan for regulating the militia of this colony, which was reported in the morning, was read a ſecond time; and, after ſundry amendments, was approved, and ordered to be entered; which is in the words following:

THE

THE Congreſs taking into conſideration the cruel and arbitrary meaſures adopted and purſued by the *Britiſh* parliament and preſent miniſtry, for the purpoſe of ſubjugating the *American* colonies to the moſt abject ſervitude; and, being apprehenſive that all pacific meaſures for the redreſs of our grievances will prove ineffectual, do think it highly neceſſary that the inhabitants of this province be forthwith properly armed and diſciplined, for defending the cauſe of *American* freedom. And further conſidering that, to anſwer this deſirable end, it is requiſite that ſuch perſons be entruſted with the command of the militia, as can be confided in by the people, and are truly zealous in ſupport of our juſt rights and privileges, do recommend and adviſe that the good people of this province henceforward ſtrictly obſerve the following rules and regulations, until this Congreſs ſhall make further order therein:

1ſt. THAT one or more companies, as the caſe may require, be immediately formed in each townſhip or corporation; and, to this end, that the ſeveral committees in this province do, as ſoon as may be, acquaint themſelves with the number of male inhabitants in their reſpective diſtricts, from the age of ſixteen to fifty, who are capable of bearing arms; and thereupon form them into companies, conſiſting as near as may be of eighty men each; which companies ſo formed ſhall, each by itſelf, aſſemble and chooſe, by plurality of voices, four perſons from among themſelves of ſufficient ſubſtance and capacity for its officers, namely, one captain, two lieutenants and an enſign.

2d. THAT the officers ſo choſen appoint for their reſpective companies fit perſons to be ſergeants, corporals and drummers.

3d. THAT, as ſoon as the companies are ſo formed, the officers of ſuch a number of companies as ſhall by them be judged proper to form a regiment do aſſemble and chooſe one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, a major and an adjutant, for each regiment.

4th. THAT each captain, as ſoon as elected, furniſh himſelf with a muſter-roll, after the form following, to be ſigned by every perſon under his command, *viz.*

We, the ſubſcribers, do voluntarily enliſt ourſelves in the company of in the townſhip of in the county of under the command of colonel (if a colonel ſhall be choſen at the time of ſubſcribing) and do promiſe to obey our officers in ſuch ſervice as they ſhall appoint us, agreeable to the rules and orders of the Provincial Congreſs. Witneſs our Hands, &c.

5th. THAT the perſons ſo enliſted meet under the directions of their officers in ſuch manner, and at ſuch times and places, as ſhall by them be judged neceſſary for their improvement in military diſcipline; and that each whole company do aſſemble at leaſt once a month for the ſame purpoſe; and that a general muſter or review of the whole regiment be had as often, and at ſuch times, as the field-officers ſhall appoint.

6th. THAT

6th. That each perſon enliſted be equipped as ſoon as poſſible with arms and ammunition, in ſuch manner as by the field-officers of ſuch regiment ſhall be directed.

7th. That due obedience be paid to the officers, and ſtrict attention obſerved in learning the military exerciſe.

8th. That where companies and regiments are already formed, and officers choſen and appointed, the ſame be continued; provided, that they do adopt ſuch further rules and orders reſpecting the ſigning of a muſter-roll, days of meeting and reviews, as are herein before contained: and that where part only of the officers are already appointed and choſen, they do proceed to elect ſuch other officers as remain yet to be choſen, in conformity to the rules herein contained.

The Congreſs taking into conſideration the ſpirited exertions of the counties of *Morris*, *Suſſex* and *Somerſet*, in raiſing of minute-men, do approve of, and thank them for their zeal in the common cauſe; and will take the ſame into further conſideration at their next meeting.

The draught of an ordinance for raiſing a ſum of money for the purpoſe therein mentioned, after ſundry amendments, was approved, and ordered to be entered, in the words following:

WHEREAS it has become abſolutely neceſſary in the preſent dangerous and extraordinary ſtate of publick affairs, in which the uſual reſources of government appear to be inſufficient

ſufficient for the ſafety of the people, and in which the good people of this province have therefore thought proper to chooſe deputies in this preſent Congreſs, that a fund be provided for the uſe of the province; We, the ſaid deputies, being perſuaded that every inhabitant is willing and deſirous to contribute his proportion of money for ſo important a purpoſe, do, purſuant to the powers entruſted to us by the people, reſolve and direct, That the ſum of *Ten Thouſand Pounds*, proclamation money, be immediately apportioned and raiſed for the uſe aforeſaid; the ſame to be apportioned, laid out and diſpoſed of, in ſuch manner as herein after is directed.

2d. *And it is Reſolved and Directed*, That the part and proportion of the ſaid ſum to be raiſed in the county of *Bergen* be *ſix hundred and ſixty-four pounds eight ſhillings*; and that the part and proportion of *Eſſex* be *ſeven hundred and forty-two pounds eighteen ſhillings*; and that the part and proportion of *Middleſex* be *eight hundred and ſeventy-two pounds ſix ſhillings and eight-pence*; and that the part or proportion of *Somerſet* be *nine hundred and four pounds two ſhillings*; and that the part or proportion of *Monmouth* be *one thouſand and ſixty-nine pounds two ſhillings and eight-pence*; and that the part or proportion of *Morris* be *ſeven hundred and twenty-three pounds eight ſhillings*; and that the part or proportion of *Suſſex* be *five hundred and ninety-three pounds five ſhillings and four-pence*; and that the part or proportion of *Hunterdon* be *one thouſand three hundred and ſixty-three pounds ſixteen ſhillings and eight-pence*; and that the part or proportion of *Burlington* be *one thouſand and ſeventy-one pounds thirteen ſhillings*

and

and four-pence; and that the part or proportion of *Glouceſter* be *ſeven hundred and ſixty-three pounds two ſhillings and eight-pence*; and that the part or proportion of *Salem* be *ſix hundred and ſeventy-nine pounds twelve ſhillings*; and that the part or proportion of *Cumberland* be *three hundred and eighty-five pounds ſix ſhillings and eight-pence*; and that the part or proportion of *Cape-May* be *one hundred and ſixty-ſix pounds eighteen ſhillings.*

3d. And, in order that the ſaid Sum may be duly raiſed, *It is further Reſolved and Directed*, That the ſame be apportioned by perſons hereafter to be appointed by the committees of the ſeveral townſhips in this colony; in which apportionment all certainties ſhall be rated one fifth leſs than the ſums they are reſpectively directed to be rated at by the fourth ſection of an act of general aſſembly of this colony, made and paſſed in the tenth year of the reign of his preſent Majeſty, entitled, *An Act to ſettle the quotas of the ſeveral counties in this colony for the levying taxes*; and that all lands, horſes, cattle and other taxables be valued as in the above-mentioned act is directed. Which ſaid apportionment ſhall be made and delivered to the perſons to be appointed by the ſeveral committees in each townſhip, at or before the firſt day of *Auguſt* next enſuing. *And it is further Reſolved and Directed*, That the perſons who ſhall be appointed for apportioning the ſame as aforeſaid, in the ſeveral townſhips of each county, to that end, do meet together on the firſt *Monday* in *July* next, at ſuch place as by the laws of this colony have been appointed for the aſſeſſors to meet in for the like purpoſe; and then and there ſettle and divide to each townſhip

within

within their county its quota of the ſum herein before directed to be raiſed in the county.

4th. *And it is further Reſolved and Directed*, That the ſeveral committees in each townſhip of the colony ſhall appoint fit perſons to collect the ſame, who, upon receiving the ſaid apportionment, ſhall immediately collect and pay the ſame to ſuch perſon or perſons as the ſeveral committees in each county may hereafter appoint; or, where there is no county committee, to ſuch perſon or perſons as the ſeveral townſhip committees ſhall jointly appoint.

5th. *And it is further Reſolved and Directed*, That, after the part or proportion of each county ſhall have been apportioned and received by the county collector, he ſhall and do pay the ſame, or any part or parts thereof, to the county committee, or to their order, ſigned by their chairman, by their vote, the ſame to be diſpoſed of by them in ſuch manner as they in their diſcretion ſhall think moſt proper to anſwer the ſaid exigencies.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fiſher*, Mr. *Tucker*, Mr. *Daniel Hunt*, Mr. *Freelinghuyſen*, Mr. I. *Pearſon*, Mr. *Dunham*, Mr. *Schurman*, Mr. *John Hart*, Mr. *Borden*, Mr. *Deare*, Mr. *Baldwin*, Mr. *Schenck*, Mr. *Ralph Hart* and Mr. *Heard*, or any three of them, in conjunction with the preſident or vice-preſident, be a committee of correſpondence, with power to convene this Congreſs.

LIST

LIST of the DEPUTIES who attended the ſeſſion in the month of *Auguſt*.

BERGEN COUNTY.

JOHN Fell,
John Demareſt,
Hendrick Kuyper,
Abraham Van Buſkirk,
Edo Merſelius.

ESSEX COUNTY.

Henry Garritſe,
Michael Vreeland,
Robert Drummond,
John Chetwood,
Elias Boudinot,
Iſaac Ogden,
Philip Van Cortlandt,
Bethuel Peirſon,
Caleb Camp.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

Nathaniel Heard,
William Smith,
John Dunn,
John Lloyd,
Azariah Dunham,
John Schurman,
John Wetherill,
Lucas Schenck,
Jonathan Sergeant,
Jonathan Baldwin,
Jonathan Deare.

MORRIS COUNTY.

William Winds,
William De Hart,
Jonathan Stiles,
David Thompſon,
Jacob Drake,
Ellis Cook,
Silas Condit.

SOMERSET COUNTY.

Hendrick Fiſher,
Peter Schenck,
Abraham Van Neſte,
Enos Kelſey,
Jonathan D. Sergeant,
Frederick Freelinghuyſen,
William Paterſon,
Nathaniel Eyers.

SUSSEX COUNTY.

Edward Dumont,
William Maxwell,
John B. Scott,
Hugh Hughs,
Mark Thompſon,
William Norcroſs.

MONMOUTH COUNTY.

Edward Taylor,
Robert Montgomery,
John Holmes,
John Covenhoven,
Daniel Hendrickſon.

HUN-

HUNTERDON COUNTY.

Samuel Tucker,
John Mehelm,
John Hart,
Ralph Hart,
John Stout,
Jaſper Smith,
Thomas Lowry,
Charles Stewart,
Daniel Hunt,
Richard Stevens,
John Stevens, junior,
Thomas Stout,
Thomas Jones,
Abraham Bonnell,
Joſeph Beavers.

BURLINGTON COUNTY.

Joſeph Borden,
Iſaac Pearſon,
Colin Campbell,
John Pope.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY.

John Sparks,
Joſeph Hugg,
Joſeph Ellis,
Elijah Clark.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

Samuel Fithian,
Jonathan Elmer,
Thomas Ewing.

SALEM COUNTY.

Jacob Scoggin,
James James,
John Holmes,
Benjamin Holmes,
Ephraim Lloyd.

CAPE-MAY COUNTY.

Elijah Hughs.

In CONGRESS, *Auguſt* 5, 1775.

1. *RESOLVED*, THAT the ſeveral perſons appointed in purſuance of the ordinance of this Congreſs in their laſt ſeſſion, to collect the quotas of the ſeveral townſhips, do pay the money by them collected to the county collector on or before the tenth day of *September* next; and if any perſons within their reſpective diſtricts ſhall have refuſed payment, that, in ſuch caſe, they do make

and

and deliver in a liſt of the names of the delinquents to their ſeveral committees, together with their receipts and vouchers for the money, which they ſhall have paid to the aforeſaid county collectors.

2. *Reſolved*, THAT the ſeveral committees do furniſh the Provincial Congreſs at their next ſeſſion with the names of all ſuch perſons within their diſtricts as ſhall have refuſed to ſign the aſſociation recommended in the laſt Congreſs, or one of a ſimilar nature; and of all ſuch as ſhall have refuſed to pay their reſpective apportionments.

3. *Reſolved*, THAT the reſpective committees in this colony do return to the Provincial Congreſs at their next ſeſſion copies of the ſeveral aſſociations ſigned in their diſtricts, agreeable to the former order of this Congreſs, together with the names of thoſe who have ſigned the ſame.

4. *Reſolved*, THAT the aſſeſſors and collectors, appointed to apportion and collect the ſaid money, do receive ſuch reward for their labour and trouble therein, as the aſſeſſors and collectors are by law entitled to, for aſſeſſing and collecting the provincial taxes.

5. *Reſolved*, THAT in caſe any part of the ſum of *ten thouſand pounds*, by the ſaid ordinance directed to be raiſed, ſhall, from the event of publick affairs, be found to be unneceſſary for the purpoſes thereby intended; in ſuch caſe the ſurplus be paid by the ſeveral county committees into the hands of the county collectors appointed by act of aſſembly, to be by them applied towards diſ-

charging the quotas of ſuch counties in the publick taxes of the province.

6. *Reſolved*, THAT the ſeveral committees, to whom the diſpoſal of the ſaid money was, by the ordinance of the laſt ſeſſion, entruſted, do account to the Provincial Congreſs for their ſeveral diſburſements, and the uſes to which they may have been applied.

SATURDAY, *Auguſt* 12.

WHEREAS it is highly expedient at a time when this province is likely to be involved in all the horrors of a civil war, and when it has become abſolutely neceſſary to increaſe the burden of taxes already laid upon the good people of this colony for the juſt defence of their invaluable rights and privileges, that the inhabitants thereof ſhould have frequent opportunities of renewing their choice and approbation of the repreſentatives in Provincial Congreſs—It is therefore reſolved, that the inhabitants in each county, qualified to vote for repreſentatives in general aſſembly, do meet together at the places herein after mentioned, on *Thurſday* the twenty-firſt day of *September* next, and then and there, by plurality of voices, elect and appoint any number not exceeding five ſubſtantial freeholders as deputies, with full power to repreſent ſuch county in Provincial Congreſs to be held at *Trenton*, in the county of *Hunterdon*, on *Tueſday* the third day of *October* next: And that the places of meeting for the election in each county ſhall be, for the county of *Bergen* at the court-houſe in

New-

New-Barbados. County of *Eſſex* at the court-houſe in *Newark.* County of *Middleſex* at the court-houſe in *New-Brunſwick.* County of *Somerſet* at the court-houſe in *Hillſborough.* County of *Morris* at the court-houſe in *Morris-town.* County of *Monmouth* at the court-houſe in *Freehold.* County of *Hunterdon* at the houſe of *John Ringo* in *Amwell.* County of *Suſſex* at the court-houſe in *Newtown.* County of *Burlington* at the court-houſe in the city of *Burlington.* County of *Glouceſter* at the court-houſe in the town of *Glouceſter.* County of *Salem* at the court-houſe in the town of *Salem.* County of *Cumberland* at the court-houſe in *Bridgetown.* County of *Cape-May* at the court-houſe in *Middle-Precinct.*

AND that the deputies ſo elected ſhall receive a certificate of their election in the words following, *to wit, We do hereby certify, that on the day of the date hereof,* A, B, C, &c. *were duly elected deputies for the county of in the province of* New-Jerſey, *with full power to repreſent the ſaid county in Provincial Congreſs, to be held at* Trenton, *in the county of* Hunterdon, *on the third day of* October *next, as witneſs our hands and ſeals this day of A. D.* 1775. Which certificate under the hands and ſeals of the preſident or chairman choſen to preſide at ſuch election, together with five or more freeholders of the ſaid county, ſhall be ſufficient evidence of ſuch election.

Reſolved, THAT, during the continuance of the preſent unhappy diſputes between *Great-Britain* and *America,* there be a new choice of deputies in

in every county of this province yearly, on the third *Thurſday* in *September*.

Reſolved, THAT on the ſaid third *Thurſday* of *September* in every year the inhabitants in each county, qualified as aforeſaid, do elect, by plurality of voices, a ſufficient number of freeholders to conſtitute a county committee of obſervation and correſpondence, with full power, as well to ſuperintend and direct the neceſſary buſineſs of the county, as to carry into execution the reſolutions and orders of the Continental and Provincial Congreſſes.

Reſolved, THAT the inhabitants of each townſhip, qualified as aforeſaid, do immediately chooſe (where it is not already done) a ſufficient number of freeholders to conſtitute a townſhip committee: and that on the ſecond *Tueſday* in *March*, in every year hereafter, they do proceed anew in like manner to chooſe ſuch a number of freeholders as ſhall be thought neceſſary to conſtitute committees, to act as committees of obſervation and correſpondence in each townſhip, with power to tranſact the buſineſs referred to them by the Continental and Provincial Congreſſes, and the county committees.

WEDNESDAY, *Auguſt* 16.

THE Congreſs reſumed the conſideration of the plan for further regulating the militia, *&c.* which, after certain amendments, was approved, and is in the words following, *viz.*

THE

THE Congreſs taking into further conſideration the ſtate of the militia in this province,

Reſolved 1. THAT the ſeveral county, or (where there is no county) the townſhip committees, do tranſmit the names of all the militia officers, choſen within their reſpective diſtricts, to the Provincial Congreſs, or to the committee of ſafety, to be by them commiſſioned, agreeable to the directions of the Continental Congreſs.

Reſolved 2. THAT all officers above the rank of a captain, not already choſen or appointed purſuant to an ordinance of this Congreſs made at their laſt ſeſſion, be appointed by the Congreſs, or, during their receſs, by the committee of ſafety.

Reſolved 3. THAT where the inhabitants of different townſhips have been embodied into one company, battalion or regiment, before the 20th day of *June* laſt, it is not the intention of this Congreſs they ſhould be diſſolved, provided they govern themſelves according to the rules and directions of the ſame.

Reſolved 4. THAT the militia of *Bergen* ſhall compoſe one regiment; the militia of *Eſſex* two regiments, with privilege of forming them into four battalions; the militia of *Middleſex* two regiments; the militia of *Somerſet* two regiments; the militia of *Monmouth* three regiments; the militia of *Morris* two regiments and one battalion; the militia of *Suſſex* two regiments and one battalion; the militia of *Hunterdon* four regiments; the militia of *Burlington* two regiments, and a company of rangers in the townſhip of *Little-*

Egg-

Egg-Harbour; the militia of *Glouceſter* three battalions; the militia of *Salem* one regiment; the militia of *Cumberland* two battalions; and the militia of *Cape-May* one battalion.

Reſolved 5. THAT this Congreſs do recommend to all inferior officers to pay due obedience to their ſuperior officers, agreeable to the directions of the Continental and Provincial Congreſſes.

Reſolved 6. THAT, in caſe of diſobedience, or irregular behaviour in any officer whatever, while on duty, complaint be made to the committee of the county to which he belongs; the majority of whom ſhall, as ſoon as convenient, make ſtrict enquiry into the ſame; and, if they think proper, may ſuſpend the officer ſo offending, and report their proceedings, together with the charge and evidence, to the committee of ſafety, or to the next Provincial Congreſs; who ſhall take ſuch order therein as to them ſhall appear to be juſt and reaſonable.

Reſolved 7. THAT all effective men, between the ages of 16 and 50, who ſhall refuſe to enrol themſelves and bear arms, ſhall pay into the hands of the townſhip committees, where they reſide, *four ſhillings* proclamation money per month, as an equivalent for their perſonal ſervice.

Reſolved 8. THAT in caſe any perſon ſhall refuſe paying the ſame, the committee ſhall return his name to the Provincial Congreſs, or to the committee of ſafety, to be dealt with as they ſhall direct.

Reſolved

Reſolved 9. THAT every perſon who hath ſigned, or ſhall ſign the muſter-roll, and neglects to attend on the day of muſtering, ſhall pay *two ſhillings* proclamation for every muſtering day he is abſent, unleſs he can give a ſufficient reaſon for his abſence, to be judged of by his captain, who is hereby required to demand the ſame: and if the delinquent refuſe payment, then the captain ſhall return his name to the townſhip committee, to be by them reported to the next Congreſs, provided that no more than two fines in a month be impoſed on any one perſon.

Reſolved 10. THAT the monies received by the committees and captains, from perſons who do not bear arms, nor attend their duty upon muſtering days, ſhall be by them jointly applied towards defraying the expence attending the inſtruction and equipment of the companies in their reſpective diſtricts—the fines of perſons under age to be paid by their parents, and of apprentices by their maſters.

Reſolved 11. THAT each private ſoldier be furniſhed with good arms, powder and ball, as near as may be, agreeable to the requiſitions of the Continental Congreſs.

Reſolved, 12. THAT, where arms may be wanting by ſuch effective men as ſhall be unable to procure them, the captain of the company to which ſuch perſons belong ſhall make application to the committee of the county or townſhip, who ſhall ſupply them, on receiving ſecurity for their proper application, provided any arms ſhall remain in their hands, after firſt ſupplying ſuch of the

the minute-men, hereafter directed to be enrolled, as may be unable to furniſh themſelves with the ſame.

Reſolved 13. THAT the precedency of rank in the militia ſhall take place in the following order: 1 *Eſſex*, 2 *Salem*, 3 *Glouceſter*, 4 *Morris*, 5 *Suſſex*, 6 *Cape-May*, 7 *Monmouth*, 8 *Somerſet*, 9 *Bergen*, 10 *Cumberland*, 11 *Middleſex*, 12 *Hunterdon*, 13 *Burlington*: And that, where there may be more than one regiment or battalion in a county, the precedency ſhall be determined by the county committee, according to their former ſeniority.

Reſolved 14. THAT, for the purpoſe of effectually carrying into execution the recommendation of the Continental Congreſs, reſpecting the appointment of minute-men, four thouſand able bodied effective men be enliſted and enrolled in the ſeveral counties in this province, under officers to be appointed and commiſſioned by this Congreſs, or committee of ſafety, who ſhall hold themſelves in conſtant readineſs, on the ſhorteſt notice, to march to any place where their aſſiſtance may be required, for the defence of this, or any neighbouring colony.

Reſolved 15. THAT the ſeveral counties in this province ſhall furniſh minute-men in the proportions following, *viz.*

County of *Bergen* 4 companies of 64 men each, officers included.

Eſſex,	6	Companies, ditto.
Middleſex,	6	Companies, ditto.
Monmouth,	6	Companies, ditto.

Somerſet,

Somerſet,	5	Companies, ditto.
Morris,	6	Companies, ditto.
Suſſex,	5	Companies, ditto.
Hunterdon,	8	Companies, ditto.
Burlington,	5	Companies, ditto.
Glouceſter,	4	Companies, ditto.
Salem,	3	Companies, ditto.
Cumberland,	3	Companies, ditto.
Cape-May,	1	Company, ditto.

Reſolved 16. THAT the ſaid minute-men, upon their enliſtment, ſhall ſign a muſter-roll in the words following: *WE, the ſubſcribers, do voluntarily enliſt ourſelves as minute-men, in the company of in the county of And do promiſe to hold ourſelves in conſtant readineſs, on the ſhorteſt notice, to march to any place where our aſſiſtance may be required, for the defence of this or any neighbouring colony; as alſo to pay due obedience to the commands of our Officers, agreeable to the rules and orders of the Continental Congreſs, or of the Provincial Congreſs of* New-Jerſey, *or, during its receſs, of the committee of ſafety: As witneſs our hands*, &c.

Reſolved 17. THAT the ſeveral county committees of this province, or, where there are no county committees, the Townſhip committees jointly, do forthwith nominate Officers for the ſeveral companies of minute-men in each county, with aſſurance, that, as ſoon as their companies are completed, they ſhall receive commiſſions from the Provincial Congreſs, or the committee of ſafety.

Reſolved 18. THAT the minute-men be formed into ten battalions; one in *Bergen*, one in *Eſſex*, one in *Middleſex*, one in *Monmouth*, one in *Somerſet*, one in *Morris*, one in *Suſſex*, one in *Hunterdon*, one in *Burlington*, one in *Glouceſter* and *Salem*; and that the companies in *Cumberland* and *Cape-May*, be independant companies of light infantry and rangers.

Reſolved 19. THAT where-ever the whole or the greater part of a militia-company ſhall offer their ſervice as minute-men, they may be commanded by the officers already appointed and choſen by them.

Reſolved 20. THAT whenever any of the ſaid minute-men ſhall be called into actual ſervice, they ſhall receive the like pay as the continental army; and be furniſhed with camp equipage and proviſions; and alſo be provided for, if wounded and diſabled in the ſervice of their country.

Reſolved 21. THAT the ſeveral battalions and companies of minute-men raiſed as aforeſaid, while remaining in this particular ſervice, ſhall have precedency of rank of the common militia of the province.

Reſolved 22. THAT the minute-men raiſed as aforeſaid ſhall continue in ſervice for the ſpace of four months, when ſuch of them as require it, ſhall be relieved, unleſs upon actual ſervice.

Reſolved 23. THAT the precedency of rank, among the ſeveral battalions and companies of

ſaid

ſaid minute-men, ſhall be ſettled from priority in the dates of their reſpective commiſſions.

Reſolved 24. THAT two brigadier generals be appointed for this province, and that be the firſt, and *Philemon Dickenſon*, Eſq. be the ſecond brigadier general of the ſaid province.

IT being ſuggeſted, that divers perſons in the province, are attempting to raiſe companies of light infantry, which may have a tendency to break other companies that have been formed by committees, purſuant to the former militia ordinance of this Congreſs: *Reſolved therefore*, That no perſon whatever do preſume to raiſe any light infantry, or independant company, without the conſent of the field officers to whom they belong, and the approbation of the county or townſhip committee, where there is no county committee, be firſt obtained: and that all companies formed before the 20th day of *June* laſt ſhall remain as they were formed, unleſs on ſuch conſent and approbation as aforeſaid, ſuch only excepted, as have been conſtituted by permiſſion from this Congreſs.

THURSDAY, *Auguſt* 17.

Reſolved, THAT as there are a number of people within this province, whoſe peculiar religious principles will not allow them in any caſe to bear arms—this Congreſs intend no violence to conſcience; and therefore would earneſtly recommend it to all ſuch perſons to contribute the more liberally, in theſe times of univerſal calamity, to the

the relief of their diſtreſſed brethren in the ſeveral colonies; and to do all other ſervices to their oppreſſed country, conſiſtent with their religious profeſſion.

Reſolved, THAT before any perſon ſhall receive a military commiſſion, agreeable to the militia ordinance of this Congreſs, he ſhall ſign the aſſociation formed and recommended by the ſame; and, if he hold a commiſſion under the late militia act of aſſembly, that he firſt reſign ſuch commiſſion to the governor of this province.

Reſolved, THAT *Jonathan D. Sergeant* Eſq. be, and he is hereby appointed provincial treaſurer to this Congreſs: and it is ordered, that the balance of monies in his hands, which he received towards paying the expences of the delegates of this colony in the continental Congreſs, together with ſuch as may hereafter come into his hands, be applied to ſuch uſes as ſhall be directed by this Congreſs, or, during its receſs, by the committee of ſafety. And that he do immediately call in the ſeveral ſums yet due from any of the counties; and in caſe of further neglect in them to diſcharge the ſame, that the ſaid treaſurer do make report thereof to the next Provincial Congreſs.

THE Congreſs taking into conſideration the remonſtrance from the county committee of *Suſſex*, relative to the raiſing the prices of ſhop goods within the ſaid county, occaſioned by the advanced price in *New-York* and *Philadelphia*, do reſolve, that the ſaid committee are the proper perſons to enquire into the complaint mentioned

in

in the ſaid remonſtrance; and if, on examination, they find it to be well founded, do then recommend that the ſaid committee make application to the committees of *New-York* and *Philadelphia*, and repreſent the conduct of ſuch traders in the ſaid provinces as ſhall appear to them to be culpable.

Ordered, THAT the ſeveral county committees do appoint one ſurgeon to each regiment and battalion belonging to their reſpective counties; and certify the name of ſuch ſurgeon to the next Congreſs, or to the committee of ſafety, in order to his being properly commiſſioned.

Reſolved, THAT this Congreſs do recommend to the ſeveral county committees in this colony, that they immediately employ gun-ſmiths to make ſuch a number of arms as they ſhall judge to be neceſſary and wanting in their reſpective counties; and that, in the manufactory of the ſaid arms, particular attention be paid to the directions of the Continental Congreſs.

Ordered, THAT *Hendrick Fiſher*, *Samuel Tucker*, *Iſaac Pearſon*, *John Hart*, *Jonathan D. Sergeant*, *Azariah Dunham*, *Peter Schenck*, *Enos Kelſey*, *Joſeph Borden*, *Frederick Freelinghuyſen*, and *John Schurman*, be a committee of ſafety during the receſs of this Congreſs.

THE Congreſs adjourned to the 20th day of *September* next, unleſs ſooner convened by the committee of ſafety.

EXTRACTS

EXTRACTS from the journal of proceedings of the COMMITTEE of SAFETY *of* New-Jerſey, *held at* Princeton *in the months of* Auguſt *and* September 1775.

WEDNESDAY, *Auguſt* 30.

THE Committee of Safety taking into conſideration the condition of ſeveral companies in this province, where vacancies have happened in conſequence of the promotion of the captain or other officer, are of opinion, that, according to the rules and orders of the Continental and Provincial Congreſſes, ſuch vacancy is to be filled up by the choice of a new officer in the uſual manner of election; but that no perſon can be turned out of office by his company, without his conſent being firſt obtained.

THURSDAY, *Auguſt* 31.

WHEREAS the publick roads of this province are obſerved to abound with ſtrollers and vagabonds, and many ſervants have run away from their maſters, and horſeſtealing and other robberies are become very frequent, therefore it is

Reſolved, THAT it be recommended to the good people of this province, that they do ſtrictly examine all ſuſpicious perſons paſſing to and fro through the different parts thereof; and if, upon ſuch examination, they do not give a ſatisfactory account of themſelves, they do proceed to deal with them according to the laws of this province.

Reſolved,

Reſolved, THAT the ſeveral officers and privates who embody themſelves as minute-men in this province be, and they hereby are directed, for the ſake of diſtinction and convenience, to adopt as their uniform hunting frocks, as near as may be ſimilar to thoſe of the riflemen now in the continental ſervice.

Ordered, THAT this committee be adjourned to *Wedneſday* the 13th day of *September* next, to meet at *Princeton*, unleſs ſooner convened by the preſident or vice-preſident.

WEDNESDAY, *September* 13.

THE committee met according to adjournment.

THURSDAY, *September* 14.

Ordered, THAT *Joſeph Borden* and *Enos Kelſey* be a committee to employ *Iſaac Collins* to print the minutes of the Provincial Congreſs of *New-Jerſey*; as alſo ſuch proceedings of the Committee of Safety as to them may appear neceſſary.

The following reſolves of the Continental Congreſs are inſerted by particular requeſt.

In CONGRESS, *July* 18, 1775.

Reſolved, THAT it be recommended to the inhabitants of all the united *Engliſh* colonies in *North-America*, that all able-bodied effective men, between 16 and 50 years of age in each colony, immediately form themſelves into regular companies of militia, to conſiſt of one captain, two lieutenants, one enſign, four ſergeants, four corporals,

porals, one clerk, one drummer, one fifer, and about ſixty-eight privates.

THAT the officers of each company be choſen by the reſpective companies.

THAT each ſoldier be furniſhed with a good muſket that will carry an ounce ball, with a bayonet, ſteel ram-rod, worm, priming wire and bruſh fitted thereto, a cutting ſword or tomhawk, a cartridge-box that will contain twenty-three rounds of cartridges, twelve flints and a knapſack.

THAT the companies be formed into regiments or battalions, officered with a colonel, lieutenant-colonel, two majors, an adjutant or quarter-maſter.

THAT all officers above the rank of captain be appointed by their reſpective provincial aſſemblies or conventions, or, in their receſs, by the committees of ſafety appointed by ſaid aſſemblies or conventions.

THAT all officers be commiſſioned by the provincial aſſemblies or conventions, or, in their receſs, by the committees of ſafety appointed by ſaid aſſemblies or conventions.

THAT all the militia take proper care to acquire military ſkill, and be well prepared for defence, by being each man provided with one pound of good gun-powder, and four pounds of ball fitted to his gun.

THAT one fourth part of the militia in every colony

colony be ſelected for minute-men, of ſuch perſons as are willing to enter into this neceſſary ſervice, formed into companies and battalions, and their officers choſen and commiſſioned as aforeſaid, to be ready, on the ſhorteſt notice, to march to any place where their aſſiſtance may be required for the defence of their own or a neighbouring colony; and as theſe minute-men may eventually be called to action before the whole body of the militia are ſufficiently trained, it is recommended that a more particular and diligent attention be paid to their inſtruction in military diſcipline.

THAT ſuch of the minute-men as deſire it, be relieved by new draughts, as aforeſaid, from the whole body of the militia once in four months.

As there are ſome people, who, from religious principles, cannot bear arms, in any caſe, this Congreſs intend no violence to their conſciences, but earneſtly recommend it to them to contribute liberally, in this time of univerſal calamity, to the relief of their diſtreſſed brethren in the ſeveral colonies, and to do all other ſervices to their oppreſſed country, which they can conſiſtently with their religious principles.

THAT it be recommended to the aſſemblies or conventions in the reſpective colonies to provide, as ſoon as poſſible, ſufficient ſtores of ammunition for their colonies; alſo that they deviſe proper means for furniſhing with arms, ſuch effective men as are poor and unable to furniſh themſelves.

THAT it be recommended to each colony, to appoint a committee of ſafety, to ſuperintend and direct

direct all matters neceſſary for the ſecurity and defence of their reſpective colonies, in the receſs of their aſſemblies and conventions.

THAT each colony, at their own expence, make ſuch proviſion by armed veſſels or otherwiſe, as their reſpective aſſemblies, conventions, or committees of ſafety ſhall judge expedient and ſuitable to their circumſtances and ſituations for the protection of their harbours and navigation on their ſea coaſts, againſt all unlawful invaſions, attacks and depredations, from cutters and ſhips of war.

THAT it be recommended to the makers of arms, for the uſe of the militia, that they make good ſubſtantial muſkets, with barrels three feet and a half in length, that will carry an ounce ball, and fitted with a good bayonet and ſteel ramrod, and that the making ſuch arms be encouraged in theſe united colonies.

WHERE, in any colony, militia is already formed under regulations approved of by the convention of ſuch colony, or by ſuch aſſemblies as are annually elective, refer to the diſcretion of ſuch convention or aſſembly, either to adopt the foregoing regulations in the whole or in part, or to continue their former, as they, on conſideration of all circumſtances, ſhall think beſt.

A true copy from the minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, *Sec.*